

A. Defense Technology Transfer



The Department of Defense (DoD) Technology Transfer Program is implemented through a decentralized process. Each Military Service and participating Defense Agency has guidance for implementation along with an Office of Research and Technology Applications (ORTAs) at each laboratory and technical activity plus patent

attorneys located at the various sites, and the appropriate authority to transfer technology both into and out of the laboratory. While this decentralized approach allows the local technology transfer processes, procedures, and projects to fall within the specific mission-related activities of the local laboratories, there is overarching DoD guidance in place to ensure common policy and objectives.

Technology Transfer mechanisms can be beneficial in a wide range of DoD organizational activities. These mechanisms can improve R&D efforts, bring in commercial technology to enhance warfighter capabilities, introduce a product in the commercial marketplace which may reduce the long term purchase cost to DoD, and provide an effective method to establish partnerships with the private sector.

In this report, specific technology transfer statistical data elements are included in Appendix C. While these data give an indication of the level of activity, they do not give the most definitive pictures of the benefits of technology transfer mechanisms to DoD. These benefits are reflected in Appendices D and E of this report highlighting awards received and successful transfer of technology for commercial and military application.